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NEW FARM.

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EZRA WHITMAN—ÆTAS 75.

The death of Ezra Whitman took place after the August number of the MARYLAND FARMER was ready for the press, and we could only give a brief notice of the fact. As inventor, manufacturer and Editor, he has become well known to the agricultural world, and we give here a few of the many tributes to his memory which the press has so unanimously bestowed upon him. These, coming from various sources, show better than any words of ours would do, the estimate placed upon him by the community. He was, however, wherever his friendship extended, a faithful friend; one who could be depended upon through good or evil report. He was a genial companion, a good conversationalist, with a mind rich in resources and brimful of pleasant experiences. He enjoyed to the last the society and pleasures of the young, and was never happier than when he could make others happy. He has left behind him a record which shows that the

world is the better because he has lived in it; and this is the best record any mortal can leave behind him.

It is with deep regret that *The Cultivator* learns of the death of a veteran agricultural editor, one of whom it has had many pleasant words to say in the past, and whose excellent publication always found a hearty welcome in our sanctum. It is comforting to know that his final illness was of only a few days' duration, and that he passed quietly away from earth, on July 13th, full of years crowned with well-earned honors. Of his life and character the *New Farm*, of Embla, Md., says: Just as we go to press with our last form, we are shocked to hear of the death of the Hon. Ezra Whitman, the proprietor of the MARYLAND FARMER. Few persons have filled so large a place in the agricultural enterprise of our country, and filled it so long and well, as did Ezra Whitman. The first inventor of a successful horse mowing machine and reaper, the first builder of a steam manufactory of

agricultural implements and of plows south of Mason and Dixon's line, he became especially well known throughout the length and breadth of our land.

He held very prominent places in our agricultural societies, State and National, and was for nearly a quarter of a century a trustee of the Maryland Agricultural College, of which he was the staunch supporter from the beginning. He leaves behind him for his sons, who have inherited his spirit of enterprise, a record of perseverance and of a life devoted to the advancement of the farming interests, which should be to them a constant encouragement and inspiration.—*Southern Cultivator*.

THE death of Mr. Ezra Whitman, Editor of the MARYLAND FARMER, of Baltimore, removes one who has in a long and useful life accomplished great good for the day and generation in which he lived. The good that he has done will live after him, and Maryland agriculture loses one of its truest and tried friends. In all measures for the public good Mr. Whitman was foremost as a champion, constant and persistent in his endeavors to infuse a spirit of healthful emulation, and arousing the farmer to progress in good works where the entire local interests of State and county were sought to be advanced.—*Free Quill*.

MR. EZRA WHITMAN, the venerable and highly esteemed editor and proprietor of the *Maryland Farmer*, died at his residence, Madison avenue extended, in Baltimore county, on Wednesday last, after a four day's illness from bilious dysentery, in the 76th year of his age. Mr. Whitman was born in Bridgewater, Mass., and at an early age, having inherited a talent for mechanics, he turned his attention to labor saving machinery, and

in 1832 invented and completed the first horse-power reaper ever made. In 1843 he came to Baltimore and engaged in the agricultural implement business, which he continued up to about ten years ago, since which time he devoted his attention exclusively to the *Farmer*. Mr. Whitman was a public-spirited citizen and took an active interest in a number of enterprises. He was a Democrat in politics and was a member of the Constitutional convention of 1867. His wife and a family of grown children survive him.—*Baltimore County Union*.

MR. EZRA WHITMAN, a well known and much respected citizen, died at his home in this city on Wednesday, July 13, aged 76 years. He was a man of uncommon intellectual endowments, and the bent of his mind and energies being in the direction of agricultural development and improvement, he became conspicuously identified with the agricultural affairs of the State. He founded the *Maryland Farmer*, a periodical devoted to agriculture and horticulture, was for many years a vice-president of the Maryland Institute, was an active member and treasurer of the National Agricultural Congress and at the time of his death was a trustee and registrar of the Maryland Agricultural College. No man in the State ever did so much for the promotion of its farming interests as Mr. Whitman, and his mechanical genius in this line was universally recognized. He was, in every sense, a useful and industrious citizen, unbending in his integrity and much beloved by a large circle of friends.—*Telegram*.

TO REMOVE INK STAINS.—Ink stains are very easily removed if put immediately in milk and slightly rubbed for a few minutes. If allowed to dry they are not so easily removed, but can be by a little more effort.

GO TO THE COUNTRY AND PROSPER.

One of the best remedies, for the city poverty and want of remunerative labor, is the advice we give at the head of this article. Not everyone, however, is able to receive it. Some there are in every city who would remain poor under any conceivable circumstances; who are so neglectful of all the duties of life, that plenty would turn to poverty in their hands from their very touch. We do not therefore give our advice to such to expect to better their condition by going to the country. They cannot better their condition by going to any particular place; they must change their nature from filth to cleanliness, from idleness to industry, from waste to economy, from vice to virtue, from lazy self-indulgence to frugality and willing labor. The country is not in need of shiftless do-nothings; of persons who do not wish to work, but are ready to live on the labor of others; of the always behindhand, loafing, drinking, swearing and swaggering classes. The country is no place for such, and they are not invited to its joys and benefits, for it has none for such. Such must remain in their poverty and misery wherever they live.

A very large number, however, of worthy and industrious citizens and their families are suffering in want and comparative poverty, because of the lack of work in our cities, or the overstock of workmen in their particular occupation. To this large number the country is an inviting field. To the person who is anxious to work, no matter how situated at present, the country offers prosperity. Of course, it will not be expected that it will at once give affluence in the place of want; but it will afford always the means of a reasonably good living until real comfort is achieved. Honest industry is always wel-

comed in every country district, and success will attend all who carry this with them into the midst of the farmers of our land.

To one who has but little means, except his hands, his intelligence and his willingness to be of use to those who employ him, the country will give a better and more comfortable home than can possibly be secured in the city. Of course exceptions will always be found, where favorable circumstances, peculiar fitness for his position, fortunate concurrence of events, may bring such a person all his heart can wish in city life; but for such we are not writing or giving our advice. It is for that large number, constantly growing larger, who are laboring, struggling and yearly becoming less able to labor and struggle, without advancing towards any more comfortable estate.

Throughout our country, at a distance from large cities, all through the South especially, almost in any section of Maryland, land may almost be had for the asking by the honest and industrious who are willing to labor and make for themselves a home. Farm help is in such demand everywhere, that he who can give evidence of a faithful industry in his city calling whatever it has been, will not be long in finding a place for himself if he seeks it in the country. Commencing in a small way, knowledge of country ways and work will come to him, and he will soon find the blessings of a life of which only his dreams have before told him.

Some have the idea that they must go to the West, on new lands, or Government lands, away into the wilderness with untold hardships, if they wish to go into the country; and no doubt there are great prospects of success in this direction. It is not, however, necessary to go away from civilization; for the country is everywhere open for those who will give her a worthy

record,—no place more open than our own State; no place better adapted, than the great, well civilized, well cultured regions of the South.

To every poor man, the father of a family, struggling in our large cities, seeking work and finding none; or barely getting enough to enable his family to eke out a scanty half-clothed and half-fed existence; to every poor man so situated we say, go to the country and prosper; prosper as you never will, never can prosper in the city. Seek a pleasant valley in Maryland, or anywhere in the South; enter into a humble home; labor for your neighbors and for yourself honestly, industriously, zealously, and you will bring around you, such comforts as will cause you to bless us for this advice.

To the many city subscribers who receive this, we suggest that they call the attention of others to the evident facts here stated, and let them know that the remedy for small wages and short work is the great and good life in the country which each one may possess; where each may soon become his own master, working for his own welfare and happiness, and the welfare and happiness of his dear ones. We wish we could reach the many thousands of workers in the city with our words: Go to the country and prosper.

A SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY.

WHERE DO TREES AND PLANTS SECURE
THEIR CARBONIC ACID?

It is admitted by all that the source of carbon, found in all vegetable or organic matter, has its origin in carbonic acid; but the question is, by what way, or through what channel, does the plant appropriate the carbon which is used in building up those early organizations, such as starch, oil, gum, gluten, sugar, &c. Claiming as I do that the roots are the

principal channel, Sir J. B. Lawes says, he thinks I will stand alone in defence of such an idea.

Fifteen years ago I stood "solitary and alone" in claiming that purchased nitrogen did not pay the farmer, as your columns will testify; and now Sir J. B. Lawes, after due experimentation, although the price of nitrogen has declined fully one half, advises the farmers of our country not to purchase it, as it will not pay; further advising that by turning under a crop of clover, (he could have added any other vegetable growth,) more nitrogen will be secured per acre than twenty dollars will purchase. See his letter in *Rural New Yorker*. Will he not by further examination bear me company in this idea, also?

He thinks, and it is generally believed that science teaches, that this carbon is secured through the absorbing power of the leaves, which, by the aid of sunlight, decompose the carbonic acid, rob it of oxygen, then exhale it, and the pure diamond is suddenly transformed to water and sugar comes to the front. This, however, would imply that during the absence of the sunlight no growth of vegetable matter would take place; but if any of my readers have observed with a measuring rod the growth of corn in rich, porous, carbonaceous soil, between sundown and sunup, I am sure they will agree with the writer that sunlight is not necessary for the formation of starch, woody matter, and chlorophyl—the composition of the stems and leaves of plants.

The question comes, however, how does a heavy crop of corn secure, in 90 days, from 5,000 to 10,000 pounds of carbon found in the grain, stalk, cob and leaves on a single acre? Estimating 5,000 pounds only, it would indicate an average of 55 lbs. per day; but as the greater part of it is collected during the last 60 days, it will

be seen that to secure this, 385,000 lbs. of air must be robbed daily of its carbon, as air has only one part carbon in 7,000.

The old theory must wrestle with another difficulty. How is it where the stems form before the leaves? Among some of my experiments, watching the formation of vegetable matter, without the aid of the leaves and sunlight, I mention asparagus—selecting it from its known rapid growth. From April to September I have selected certain roots and from time to time cut the stem before the shooting of the leaves and watched the flowing, gummy, sweet juice, and continued the cutting until the growing season was past, yet there seemed no limit to the power of the roots to furnish organic matter for new shoots; and this without the aid of a leaf.

It has always seemed strange to me that when all scientific research has failed to separate carbon from oxygen, which hold together with electrical force, that scientists should give to a delicate leaf this remarkable chemical power—a power which has baffled all laboratories. I have therefore sought in the earth and among the roots, where carbonic acid, in the proper condition of soil, is always at hand, the source whence the roots may convey this element to the growing plant. My experiments have seemed to prove in every instance, the truth of this theory, and acting in harmony with it, plants thrive the best, and all the results of the final crop give best satisfaction.

Let me say, then, to every farmer, secure a light, carbonaceous soil, by turning under any vegetable growth and its decay will convert your sand and clay in due time to a light, porous, absorbing soil, and rest assured that the absorbed moisture, with its dissolved carbonic acid, in conjunction with the constantly forming organic acid, will prove all the solvent

you require for any mineral matter needed by the plants, and your lands and your crops, will all be most satisfactory to you.

The whole secret lies in the fact that the great body of carbon, needed by every species of plant, is thus given to the roots and by them conveyed to the formation of plant, flower and fruit; which experiment will always demonstrate notwithstanding the old idea so long accepted without question, but which is essentially an error capable of plain showing to any intelligent understanding.

A. P. SHARP.

Rock Hall, Md.

[It is proper to state that the above is extracted by the Editor from a very extended article by Dr. Sharp, on this question. The original would form an interesting chapter in his volume of experiences and experiments, which he is compiling for publication hereafter; but is too long, and too purely technical in some of its details, for our columns. If any errors in chemical or scientific terms are discoverable, or any misapplications of chemical forces, the Editor is doubtless the guilty party; not the eminent author.—ED.]

FARM WORK FOR SEPTEMBER.

This is a busy month for the farmer and planter. Fruit is to be gathered, extra care given to stock; land to be fallowed for wheat; rye to be sown; corn to be cut and secured in shocks; tobacco to be housed and kept clean of worms, tops and suckers, besides other small jobs necessary to be done on the farm.

WHEAT.

The seed ought to be selected or procured at once; it should be of the best, purest, cleanest, plumpest, most prolific and heaviest that is to be had, and sown at the rate of 5 pecks per acre, if drilled,

and 6 pecks if by hand. Wheat wants a fine tilth, firm soil and clean land.

Tobacco is a good preparatory crop for wheat if it is well plowed before being drilled, then also highly fertilized and heavily rolled. It is foolishness to sow wheat on poor land. It don't pay at all and the slovenly, unprofitable system or rather, bad habit, should be abandoned.

Where the fly has not been troublesome for some years, we would recommend early sowing as the best for insuring a good crop. The fly is mostly destructive when the wheat stem is making its second and third joint.

Be sure and have a sufficient quantity of water furrows to carry off surface water, that is in excess at anytime, and see that the whole field is properly drained, by open or blind ditches, or both, where required.

RYE.

The same remarks and suggestions apply to the rye crop, except that it will do well after corn, if the ground be properly prepared. Rye does not require as rich or heavy soil as wheat. A light sandy soil, well cultivated and aided by some manure or fertilizer will bring a good crop of rye if sown early, when the same land under like conditions would not produce a paying crop of wheat.

ROOT CROPS.

It is presumed the beet, mangold, carrot, and parsnip crops have been laid by, but they should occasionally be hand wed, and the ruta buga and turnips ought to have the ground kept porous, and free from weeds and grass. Sprinkle the plants often with ashes or plaster, or the two mixed.

Potatoes should get their last working, and be kept free from bugs. The early planted if not dug before, may now be dug, and be sent to market, after culling them carefully so as to present in each

lot, uniformity in size and if possible in form. It is surprising what a difference there is in looks and in price between badly assorted and skilfully culled lots of potatoes. Small potatoes uniform in size and form, and clean, will often bring a higher price than much larger ones badly fixed up with here and there a small half ripened one. The buyer seems only to see these exceptions, overlooking the many superior bulbs. It pays well to cull judiciously all vegetables and fruits, especially potatoes and tomatoes, making two or three different assortments. When sold the general average price will be much greater than if all were indiscriminately mixed and sold. We know this, and think it proper to call attention to it. It is neglected too often, and some say it does not pay, but it does.

CORN.

Cut off the corn close to the ground, as soon as the grain is well glazed and the milk is out of it; before the fodder dries and blows off.

TOBACCO.

Let the tobacco have plenty of room in the house to keep it from sweating. After it is partly cured it can be re-hung closer to make room, and also to keep out damp air. Too much care cannot be taken in handling this crop at this stage, to prevent bruising, tearing, heating, keeping clear of worms and suckers, &c. After cutting let it wilt well before handling, but in a hot sun it will soon burn, so that it ought to be picked up and laid in small heaps of 8 to 10 plants, enough for a stick before it burns; lay the heaps with butts of plants toward the sun.

Ground leaves and those that fall off in moving the tobacco are usually picked up when wet with dew, and put in piles to mould and sweat until convenient to tie up. This is wrong. Let them become partially dry before gathering. As soon

as gathered spread them thinly over a scaffold of sticks or planks, and in a day or two they will do to tie in bundles, when they are not too dry so as to crumble, nor too wet, so as to cause them to rot in the head of the bundle.

Experience will soon teach the beginner the proper state in which they are fit to be tied in bundles. But a tobacco crop properly managed, by being topt low and pruned while growing of the bottom leaves, will have but few ground leaves when housed. Indeed as times are with labor scarce and high, we hardly think saving ground leaves will pay the expense and trouble, unless it be one of those peculiar seasons we sometimes have in August and September.

ORCHARDS.

If you are going to set out an orchard this year, select your lot, manure it well, and plow it up deep, so as to have it ready for digging holes and planting the trees next month. Prepare a compost heap for mixing with the earth as the trees are planted.

GARDEN WORK.

Snap Beans, may be sown early in the month, for pickles and late table use.

Turnips, sow rather thick, a bed of turnips to stand all winter and furnish "tops" for early spring greens.

Salads, make the last sowing of lettuce, and be sure to sow a large border of corn salad in drills. It is a delicious winter and spring salad.

Celery, commence earthing up the celery, and endive or other crops that require it. Sow a small bed of Spanish or Chinese radish. Thin and weed late beets and carrots. Keep all the growing crops clean and friable, and do not let them suffer for water should the month be dry.

Parsley and other herbs, if strong and

luxuriant, cut rather close to the ground, dry in the shade and put away in paper bags for winter. If the ground be dry, as soon as cut, loosen the ground about the roots, and remove all the weeds and grass from the beds, then give a good watering with a sprinkling of plaster and slacked ashes; the plants will again begin to grow and branch out.

Seeds, of all kinds as they ripen, gather, dry in the shade, and when fit, rub or beat out the seeds, clean nicely and put away in small bags in a safe place or hang up to be secure from mice and insects.

DOGS AND SHEEP.

The title of the above article may be objected to. Some may think it should be "Sheep and Dogs." But we believe that the more important and powerful; to use a slang phrase, those "on top," should be put first; and there are enough sheep growers ready to assert that the dogs are "on top" to justify my putting the canines ahead of the sheep.

There is yet money in sheep. The reduction in the tariff on wool depressed prices for a time, which depression was much increased by the more timid sacrificing their flocks. But this year wool has brought good prices, compared with the prices of other agricultural products and those things the farmer has to buy. And right along there has been a good profit in good mutton. Of course the man who has produced by expensive methods, mutton of inferior quality, has not made himself rich; but if he had produced wheat, or corn, or beef of the same quality, by the same methods, he would not have had a larger profit. We are behind in mutton production—we who lead in so many branches of agricultural production. We are behind our Canadian brethren, and yet farther behind our English

brethren, in mutton growing. Yet as we produce them, there is sufficient profit in both wool and mutton to give to our sheep industry too much importance for it to be sensible for us to allow that industry to be destroyed by worthless dogs.

The problem of most importance confronting the flock owner over the greater part of the country is, how to abate the dog nuisance. In quite a number of States, the old common law concerning nuisances has not been thought enough, and statutes specially directed at the canines have been enacted. As might have been expected, these statutes have proved unsatisfactory. The only good they have accomplished is to draw the attention of the people to legal measures for the suppression of the evil; and the old common law would have done as well had it been used. What we need is not more law, but more attention given to the law we have. Yet I doubt if any law will prove altogether satisfactory. Its enforcement will not accomplish more than a judicious use of poison or buckshot, and as it makes the proceedings quite public, it will create all the more ill-feeling. The love of some men for worthless dogs is truly marvelous; and you will get the ill-will of a man by causing the death of his dog, whether he knows you or some official is the executioner. And if he doesn't know that you are the executioner, you will not get his ill-will. It is always better to have a friend than an enemy; yet we would not give a cent for the friendship of the man who persists in keeping a vicious dog to the annoyance and hurt of his neighbors. We would not regret the loss of his friendship, though we might fear the acquisition of his ill-will.

Not all dogs are vicious or worthless. Some are good, of real value. Such dogs should be protected; and usually their own worth is all the protection they need.

But good dogs are very few. A worthless dog should not be allowed to live. It may not do the havoc which is done by a positively vicious dog; but it consumes without giving a return, and makes its owner in particular, and the world in general, poorer. It costs some men more to feed their dogs than to educate their children. For the sake of the children the dogs should be killed, though there is not a sheep within twenty miles. S.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

SOILS FIT FOR PLANTS.

Every farmer, who knows anything about soils and plant growth, knows that river *bottoms*—*alluvial* soils—are the very best soils that can be, for rich, heavy growths; and there are two reasons for this:

First—this kind of soil is made very fine, thoroughly comminuted and mixed, by the action of water or floods which carry it along and deposit the drift of light, rich earth, when the flow of water subsides, leaving this kind of soil along the banks of the streams, loose and porous, so that the fine roots, as well as large ones, can penetrate and range through it freely for support and growth; whilst, also, the air can fully circulate to cause speedy dissolution of mineral and vegetable matters in the earth, and thus fit them for plant food, so that the roots can take them in to nourish the plant.

Second—These floods or flows of water gather and carry along in their course all the best ingredients—vegetable, mineral and animal matters—that are on or near the surface of the earth, on hills and slopes, from a wide range of surface, and deposit them within a narrow space, which make a wonderfully rich and fertile soil, for the luxuriant growth of all kinds of crops. Now, *all* farmers well know, from experience, that these loamy soils, on

the "bottoms," are the most fertile and productive; but all do *not* know the *reason why* they are so; observation shows them it is so, but don't show the reason.

Hence, there are useful, practical lessons to be learned in knowing and looking at the reasons why river-bottoms are superior soils.

Since these alluvial soils are the very best form of earths for production, it is wisdom for the farmer to try, as far as possible, to imitate them—to bring as much of his land as he can into the same condition.

And how is he to do this—how can he, artificially, put his land into the same productive condition which the action of nature thus does for him?—There are two essential things to do:

First—He must completely pulverize his land by fine, deep ploughing, and thoroughly rolling and harrowing it, so there will be no large hard lumps, and in order that the air and moisture can penetrate and circulate through the whole of it, causing quick and full dissolution of the particles into such forms that the young plants can take them up and feed on them; for nothing is better known than that plants cannot appropriate any article of the soil or earth to its sustenance and growth until it is thoroughly *dissolved* and converted into a liquid state, any more than the food which a man eats can nourish and sustain him before it is fairly digested and converted into fluids, so as to be introduced by the various secretions into the different parts and organs of the human system.

Second—He must also introduce into his soils those mineral and vegetable ingredients which compose a proper *loam*, and make a similar mixture of earthy matter as that which composes the alluvial deposits along the streams.

A nice mixture or compost of common

earths with lime, ashes (or potash), phosphates, and well rotted manure, marsh muck (or forest leaves) or any straw or grass substance, and the whole finely and completely mixed into the surface of the field, will constitute a fair and successful imitation of and substitute for the rich, productive "flatts;" along streams, so universally prized and sought by farmers. In short; a good, fine mixture of rotten vegetable matters with lime, ashes and phosphates into the common sand, with a deep, thorough pulverization of the soil, will give as fertile and productive soil as are the alluvial river-bottoms.

Spreading lime, ashes and phosphates (or ground bone) on green crops, as clover, peas, buckwheat, &c., and plowing them under so as to let them all rot, dissolve and mix together will produce the same results. The proper dissolution and mixture of all ingredients is what does it—that is sure. D. S. C.

From Paris Letter, 1887.

FOREIGN NOTES ON THE SHEPHERD DOG.

The sheepdog is the most precious of farm servants, and demands no wages. It makes the sheep, on receiving an order, to march as a colonel handles his regiment. Often the dog will remain the whole night to guard a ewe which has been overtaken by a premature lambing while returning to the fold, and in the morning, when the flock sets out, it will bark to attract the Shepherd. The sheep dog ought to be alert, docile, naturally mild, vigorous and well built. To comprehend orders rapidly and execute them without violence, so as not to frighten the flock, or produce, by running them rough and closely together, abortion in ewes.

It is the type most removed from the

original dog, which is the same as saying it is endowed with high intelligence. Buffon lays down the sheep dog as the nearest approach to the wolf dog. Dogs are found on every part of the globe, either

veloped a thousand varieties—differing alike in conformation as in intelligence.

In the domestic state, all dogs bark; in the wild, they only howl. Even in its



in a wild or domesticated state; indeed more ordinarily in both. They group around the most northern latitudes; but the most numerous races are to be found in the temperate zone, whose milder climate, united to antique subjection have de-

savage condition the dog does not lose its instinct to live with man, for, if taken in a trap, a few days suffice to tame him to associate. The shepherd's dog especially, has only one thought, one want, one passion—affection. It is capable of the most

heroic devotion, dangers, fatigue, hunger, exposure and privations of every kind, and for all payment—a caress! It is said, the sheep dog when transported to a warm climate, suffers in point of intelligence. This must be an error, as the shepherd dog in South America displays marked intelligence. According to Darwin, whole flocks of sheep are left to its care, thus acting the part of a shepherd, not as in the East, where the Shepherd is everything and is followed by the sheep. Further, the dog comes home for its food and then returns to its duty; it has been even trained to drive the flock to the night-pen at a fixed hour. If a stranger approach the sheep, the dog will advance, barking furiously, while the sheep will fall in behind him, as if he were a ram. This high development is due to the dog being reared as a puppy, away from its fellows, left isolated with a ewe, which it suckles. Also the dog is castrated.

The sheep dog has the ears, short and straight; the tail, horizontal or drooping, and bushy; the hair is long, shaggy, black, or dark-grayish. The breed is numerous and exists all over the world, but its distinctive traits remain unchanged, and this is due, chiefly, to not crossing with any dogs save those of its own species. The Scotch collie is small—14 inches high, and is perhaps the most perfect type of shepherd dog. In France there are two very distinct varieties—the *de Brie* and *de Montague*. The first is most esteemed, and for lowland work; the second, approaching more to the English cur dog, is larger, less intelligent, and generally preferred for forest and mountain regions, where it can, from its greater size and strength, grapple with wolves. It is also preferred when driving sheep to market; but it must not be confounded with the drover's dog, which is born without a tail, like Maux cats.

This "scut" appendage is accounted for

thus: In early times, when the shepherd's dog had more frequent combats with wolves and bears than now, their owners had the habit to dock their tails and clip their ears so that their foes might have less grip on them. Strip them like cocks for fighting, or prize boxers. This mutilation, or deformity, by heredity became a special taint, for nature always stops at the necessary limits, and confers on each animal, those gifts or qualities, that can be usefully employed.

The chief drawback with the sheep dog is its great desire, when young, to play with the sheep. Its attachment to its master is measured, in the sense, that it never allows demonstration of affection to interfere with business or duty.

PLEASANT HOMES.

Man's days on earth are few and full enough of misery, do the best he may. But the home life of thousands of deserving, industrious people is not as bright and pleasant as it might easily be made. One's home and surroundings exert an untold influence for good or for evil, according as they affect the age, the mind and the heart.

It does not take vast sums of money or great and burdensome labor to build up pleasant homes. A picket fence hastily and carelessly put up may be a very sloven and unsightly affair, while, out of the *same material*, with only a little more time, care and taste, a very neat enclosure may be made. Who does not prefer to look upon a fence constructed as it should be with neatness and taste, no matter what the material that is used? It is better both for the aesthetical and moral culture of the family. Neatness and good taste in the construction and arrangement of the home and its surroundings, is the *sine qua non* of a pleasant abode. Without these wealth lavish is wealth wasted.

A closely-shaven lawn and neat gravel walks are better, and teach a purer lesson than weeds, briars and mud-puddles. A frequent coat of paint will pay for itself in the increased durability of the buildings, and the looks and moral effect of the thing is worth a great deal besides. A dollar for seed, and an occasional half hour spent in the door yard dressing and arranging the beds, would give your wife and daughters a fine collection and succession of flowers, that would gladden both you and all the family. Good books and neat pictures are abundant and cheap, and by adding a few at a time the cost is never felt. All these things, though they cost so little, tend to make bright and more pleasant the kingdom of home.

There is no home, however rude, but that may be made not only really comfortable but pleasant at only trifling cost. It is not money, but good taste and an unconquerable disposition to be neat, that makes a home pleasant. A little good judgment and an appreciation of what is aesthetical in one's surroundings, is of greater moment than wealth in a case like this. The sum and substance of it all is, neatness, cleanliness, comfort. Let these three be insured beyond contingency, and any home, be it a log cabin or a slab-shanty, is a pleasant one.

Then, reader, if you have given no particular attention to this matter before, we entreat you lose no further time, but begin at once from this day on to do whatever you can to brighten up your home. Plant a few shade trees, some shrubbery, arrange a few flower beds, build a better yard fence, paint up the old house—do any or all of these as opportunity offers. And if opportunity does not offer, make the opportunity. Soon you will find your example contagious. Wife and children, and, may be, neighbors, will catch the spirit. The old home will put on a

brighter look. You will find life become more pleasant and your home more comfortable. You will find, too, that country life need not be so rough and forbidding as, alas! it too often is—that ease and refinement and intelligence and education are not incompatible with life upon the farm. Verily, there is no freer or happier land on earth than the Kingdom of the farm, where taste is the presiding genius and comfort is the King.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

NOTES FROM VIRGINIA.

As an old subscriber and reader of the FARMER, I was pained and surprised to see the announcement of the death of its honored senior Editor and Proprietor. Having known him personally for eighteen years during which time I have had many business transactions with him, always agreeable and pleasant, yet it is mainly as a reader and contributor to the FARMER that I have known him, for I could claim no intimate personal acquaintance. Full of years and honors, he has died with the record of a well spent life. I leave to others better qualified to eulogize his great services to agriculture, but with thousands of others I will cherish the memory of those services.

The grape growing interest so prominent in this portion of our State has received a serious blow by the destruction of the fruit by rot. It appears to prevail over a very large extent of country with here and there an exception. Other fruits appear to be affected in a similar manner, as apples and peaches have rotted very badly. As a consequence and also because of a light setting of fruit blossoms, the fruit crop is very light through Eastern and Middle Virginia.

Other crops are better than the average, oats and corn especially. But farmers are not happy by any means, for produce is so

low as not to afford any profit, but such as to entail actual loss. This is an abnormal condition of affairs, and it will ere long be felt in other lines of industry and in its effect on trade.

J. W. PORTER.

Va.

Practicality.

At the bottom of every department of human life should rest the useful and the intrinsically valuable. The froth and scum, which are made up of talk and show, are of little account. The color of a cow does not amount to much, if she is gentle, a good milker, a small eater, an extra butter cow, a good cheese cow, or if she possesses any of the real virtues that the animal should have. So with every department of the farm life, do not be taken with mere show instead of real value. No matter how high and fanciful may be the carriage of the horse's head or how proudly he may step, if otherwise he is good for nothing on the farm, before the plow. Measure things by their actual value.

Women on the Farm.

To lighten as much as possible the labor of the women in the Farmer's household, should be the object of every thoughtful man upon the farm. Heavy articles moved for them, wood provided and water handy, many necessary steps saved to them, and the disposition shown to help wherever help can be given in the work, are a great source of encouragement and lighten all the labor. That hired man, who habitually anticipates the needs of the household, when his field labors will permit him to do so, is felt to be a treasure, and will always receive the favorable word when he needs a good place. Attend to the wants of the wife, and make her labor light—it will always be heavy

enough, in spite of all the help you can give.

Science.

It is not necessary to parade your knowledge of technical terms, to show that you appreciate or work after the most scientific methods. You can know all the terms used in the books; but if you fail to put the real thing in your work, it is of very little account to you. Don't spend all your science in talk. What is wanted is the very best method of practical work:—work that will tell, when the harvest comes. The best science speaks from the full corn crib; the dollars that pan out from the wheat field; the barns packed solidly with hay, over which the stock will rejoice; and finally, rich fields all the better and richer because they have scientifically yielded to you all these things in greatest abundance.

TO REMOVE BLOOD STAINS.—Blood stains can be removed from an article that you do not care to wash by applying a thick paste, made of starch and cold water. Place in the sun, and rub off in a couple of hours. If the stain is not entirely removed, repeat the process and soon it disappears.

TO REMOVE FRUIT STAINS.—Hold the goods stained over a vessel in such a way that pouring boiling water on the opposite side of the stain it will run through the goods, and in a short time the stain will be seen to disappear.

SILVER should be washed with a chamois skin, saturated with silver soap, each time after use, thus avoiding a general cleaning. Windows should never be washed while the sun shines upon them, as it is impossible to polish them without leaving blue streaks.

THE KITCHEN.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING SOUPS.

A witty Frenchman says: "To make good soup, the pot should scarcely smile." This is true of stewing meat, as of making soup. To do either well, the whole process must be exceedingly slow, from beginning to end; the saucepan should only "smile."

To make good soup, the meat should be put on in cold water, and slowly brought to the boil, that the juices may be drawn out. Before it comes to the boiling point, the scum will rise freely; take it off before ebullition has broken and scattered it; then when it does boil, throw in half a cup of water, and skim again—add this water just as it comes to the boil two or three times; it brings all remaining scum rapidly to the surface, and when this rises no longer, set aside to simmer. It must never go below simmering point after this until made. This is the whole secret of clear soup. I will here give Jules Gouffe's recipe for *Pot-au-feu*; if carefully followed, a clear, pale bouillon will be the result, and this bouillon is the foundation of most soups. Boiled down to one-half its bulk it becomes *consomme*.

Pot-au-feu requires four pounds of beef without bones, six quarts of water, six ounces of carrot, six ounces of turnip, same quantity of onions, three ounces of celery and two cloves. After once or twice making this soup, the cook will be able to judge by the size of the vegetables the required quantity, but weighing is advisable at first, as much depends on perfect proportion. The meat must slowly simmer for three hours, then add the vegetables, not before; simmer till done. With bone and beef together, four quarts of water to four pounds of meat.

Quick boiling and careless skimming are the causes of cloudy bouillon; supposing, as a matter of course, that all the vegetables have been perfectly cleansed.

For soup the rules are few and simple. *Cold water must be put on the meat in the proportion of one quart to one pound of ordinary soup meat and bone.* If solid meat is used, a quart and a pint may be allowed. This, when strained, may be boiled down to any required strength, but will be found strong enough as a prelude to dinner when clear, fragrant bouillon, rather than concentrated nourishment is required.

The reason for putting meat in cold water for soup is because the object is to draw out the juices; for this reason it should take at least two hours before it reaches the boiling point.

The vegetables should be very carefully proportioned.

The same rules apply to making soup from bones.

The "boiling point," which I have said elsewhere is only the beginning of boiling, is indicated by an occasional bubble from the center of the pot, which breaks and spreads in hardly perceptible circles on the water—the French "smile."

It often happens that soup intended to be brown is not sufficiently so even when made very strong, to be inviting without coloring. Caramel is generally used for this purpose; but onions cut in slices and left in a moderate oven until they are black chips (not charred, however) may be kept bottled for this purpose; a small quantity added to a stew or soup improves the flavor; or, they may be fried each time and added with the other vegetables.

For white stock use veal or fowls instead of beef.

Domestic Recipes.

TOMATO OMELET FOR BREAKFAST.—Peel and chop five fine tomatoes of good size; season them with salt and pepper, add to them half a teacup of grated bread. Beat four eggs to a foam and stir into the tomatoes. Heat a “spider” hissing hot, put in a small piece of butter, turn in the mixture and stir rapidly until it begins to thicken. Now let it brown for two or three minutes on the bottom, then lap it half over, slip on to a hot dish, and serve for breakfast, garnished with parsley and slices of hard boiled eggs. It is an appetizing and also a handsome dish.

ROASTED FRUIT.—Select perfect fruit of any small variety, such as plums, cherries, grapes or small pears, leaving the stems on; dip them one by one in a beaten white of an egg or in a solution of gum arabic, and from that into a cup of very finely pulverized sugar; cover the bottom of the pan with a sheet of fine, white paper, place the fruit in it and set in a stove or oven that is cooling. When the frosting on the fruit becomes firm, heap them on a dish and set in a cool place.

BAKED APPLES.—This is a very healthy dish and may be made a very enticing one. Pare and core large, juicy apples, but do not break them in pieces; fill the centres with sugar, a little lemon juice and a thin bit of the yellow part of the rind; put a clove in each apple; lay them in a pan with a little water in the bottom; sprinkle sugar on the tops and bake. Baste them often, and when done set away to cool. Put them on ice if you can, the colder they are the better. Whip cream and spread over them thickly; send powdered sugar around with them. If you live in the city content yourself by serving the apples with rich milk and sugar, or a boiled custard may be poured over them.

JELLIED CHICKEN.—Take an old fowl, cut in pieces, boil in a little more than a quart of water, with salt and pepper, until well done. Then take out the meat, cut it from the bones, skin it well and take off the fat. Return the bones and skin to the liquor and boil twenty minutes. Then strain through a cloth and set aside to cool. Cut the chicken into small bits; place in a mould, sprinkling grated lemon over it, adding the juice. When the liquor is so cold that the fat can be removed, turn it carefully into the mould over the prepared chicken, not allowing any sediment to mingle with it. Set aside until the next day, then turn out and cut in thin slices. It is very nice for a supper dish.

BOILED APPLE PUDDING.—Make a butter-crust, or a suet one, using for a moderate-sized pudding from three-quarters to one pound of flour, with the other ingredients in proportion. Butter a basin; line it with some of the paste; pare, core and cut the apples into slices, and fill the basin with these; add sugar to taste, flavor with lemon-peel and juice, and cover with crust; pinch the edges together, flour the cloth, place it over the pudding, tie it securely, and put it into plenty of fast-boiling water. Let it boil from one and a half to two and a half hours, according to the size; then turn it out of the basin, and send it to table quickly. Apple puddings may also be boiled in a cloth without a basin; but, when made in this way, must be served without the least delay, as the crust so soon becomes heavy.

CREAM PANCAKES.—Mix the yolks of two eggs, well beaten, with a pint of cream, two ounces of sifted sugar, a little nutmeg, cinnamon and mace. Rub the pan with a piece of butter, and fry the pancakes thin.

LIVE-STOCK.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

SUPPLEMENT THE PASTURES.

Don't allow the animals to lose flesh. The loss is greater than you may suppose; you lose not only flesh, but time. Continuous gain and early maturity are the conditions of profitable stock growing, and you stop gain and retard maturity by putting the animals on short rations. The pastures are almost certain to become short and dry by August, and the wise man provides for this by sowing fodder corn and other stover crops in the spring. If, however, you have not done this, try hard to supplement the pastures with something else. It will be better to feed some of the field corn than to allow the animals to lose flesh, or even to stand still. Care must be taken that cattle do not eat the corn after it has been chewed and rejected by the hogs, as "mad itch" will result. If swine and cattle are fed green corn, they must be fed separately. Other foods may be used for supplementing the pastures. Not a little feed may be got from the garden and truck patches. The orchard and potato patch will furnish considerable stock food, if the products not fit for market are gathered. Bran, cottonseed cake, shipstuff, etc., may also be employed. The point is not to let the animals stop in a reasonable gain, and to carry this point the pastures must be supplemented by some means.

JOHN M. STAHL.

LAMPAS.

This is nothing more than a local enlargement or swelling of the bars of the roof of the mouth, caused by impure blood or some general disturbance of the system.

It occasions but little inconvenience, and will depart of itself if let alone.

The treatment, if any, should be, first, a dose of epsom salts—half a pound or thereabouts—given either in meal or a liquid drench. This is to purify the blood. The mouth may be washed daily with a pretty strong solution of borax, or of chlorate of potash.

The old and barbarous practice of burning with a hot iron, or scoring the swollen bars with a sharp knife, cannot be too severely condemned. There is no need of it, and it does no good, but only tends to aggravate and prolong the disease. Taking a little blood from the horse's neck may do good, but nothing more severe should ever be thought of. The disease originates in the state of the blood, and is to be cured by ridding the blood of its impurity, fever, &c. Doses of quinine are good to restore tone to the animal's system. This, of itself, will cure lampas.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

WEANING.

Weaning often marks a critical time in the life of the young animal. Not always, yet nearly always, this results from mismanagement. If the young animal is properly treated, and weaning is properly conducted, the animal is scarcely aware that such an operation is being carried on or is completed. Weaning properly begins as soon as the animal can make use of food other than the milk of its dam. As soon as it can eat meal, bran or grain, these articles should be given it, and it will soon learn to eat them; and just as it takes food other than its dam's milk, it is being weaned. Let this process be begun as early as possible and carried on with all

reasonable speed, and by the time when it is desired to wean the animal it will be already weaned. Weaning is thus made gradual and gentle, instead of abrupt and violent. There is not a sudden change from one class of food to another, that is sure to derange the action of the digestive and assimilative organs. If, however, it is necessary to make the change abruptly, temper it as much as you can to the animal by giving it extra attention and carefully prepared food. "Mashes" can be used to good advantage, and good, tender grass is also a splendid substitute for milk.

JOHN. M. STAHL.

Quincy, Ill.

WANT TO BE CATTLE QUEENS.—Mrs. D. G. Croly, ("Jennie June,") is the president of a new corporation which has been incorporated under the New Jersey State laws. It is known as the Mrs. R. P. Newsby's Women's Endowment Cattle Company. It has a capital stock of \$1,500,000, divided into 3,000 shares of \$500 each. The shares are to be sold to women as endowments for their children. None of the shares are to be issued to brokers, and they cannot be used in speculation. Albert C. Couch, of New York, is the general and financial manager. The company has 6,000 head of cattle and controls nearly 2,000,000 acres of grazing lands in New Mexico.

THE HEAVIEST LAMB ever raised in the United States, an Oxford, which attained 100 pounds in nine months, was fed all the ground oats in addition to its mother's milk it could eat. A twin sister reached 87 pounds in the same period.

THE fall trotting meeting of the Maryland Agricultural Society will commence at Pimlico, Tuesday, September 13th, and continue four days.

THE U. S. IMPORT LAWS admit duty free all horses received into this country for breeding purposes. Lately the collectors of customs have taxed large importations by dealers in fine horses on the ground that they were articles of merchandise. Messrs. Galbraith Bros., of Janesville, Wis., made a test case recently which has been favorably decided by the U. S. Treasury Department. The following is a part of Assistant Secretary Maynard's ruling: "The Department by its regulations (see articles 387 and 388) has enunciated the principle that "the law does not require that the animals shall be imported solely for breeding purposes," that in case of blood cattle imported from Europe "it may generally be assumed, on the formal proofs, that they are imported for breeding purposes, because there would be no profit in importing them for any other purpose," and that "animals valuable mainly for their breeding qualities are not excluded from free entry merely because intended for sale, nor because they are too young to be physically qualified for breeding when imported."

LADY FAY.

Lady Fay, the subject of the sketch in this issue, is one of the members of the great Lakeside Holstein-Friesian cattle, owned by Messrs. Smith, Powell & Lamb, Syracuse, N. Y.

Lady Fay, was winner of the sweepstakes prize, at the late New York Dairy and Cattle show, for the cow giving the most milk in twenty-four hours. She competed with celebrated Jerseys, Guernseys and Holsteins. She is a typical dairy cow, fine in every point, with capacious udder, unusual development of the milk-producing organs, of good size and a marvel of beauty. She is dam of Netherland Statesman, who won first prize as

bull at the New York show. She has given 20,412 pounds and 3 ounces of milk in a year, and has a butter record of 22 pounds, 3½ ounces in a week. The Lakeside herd is noted for its great milk and butter producers; the entire herd of mature cows averaged last season 17,166 pounds and 1 ounce of milk in a year; thirty-four two-year-old heifers averaged 12,465 pounds and 7 ounces in a year, and eighty-seven cows and heifers have averaged 17 pounds and 1 ounce of butter in a week; fifty-two have averaged 20 pounds, 12-13 ounces of butter in a week. It will pay our readers to consider these records carefully and aim, by care in selection and breeding, to produce the same results.

THE DAIRY.

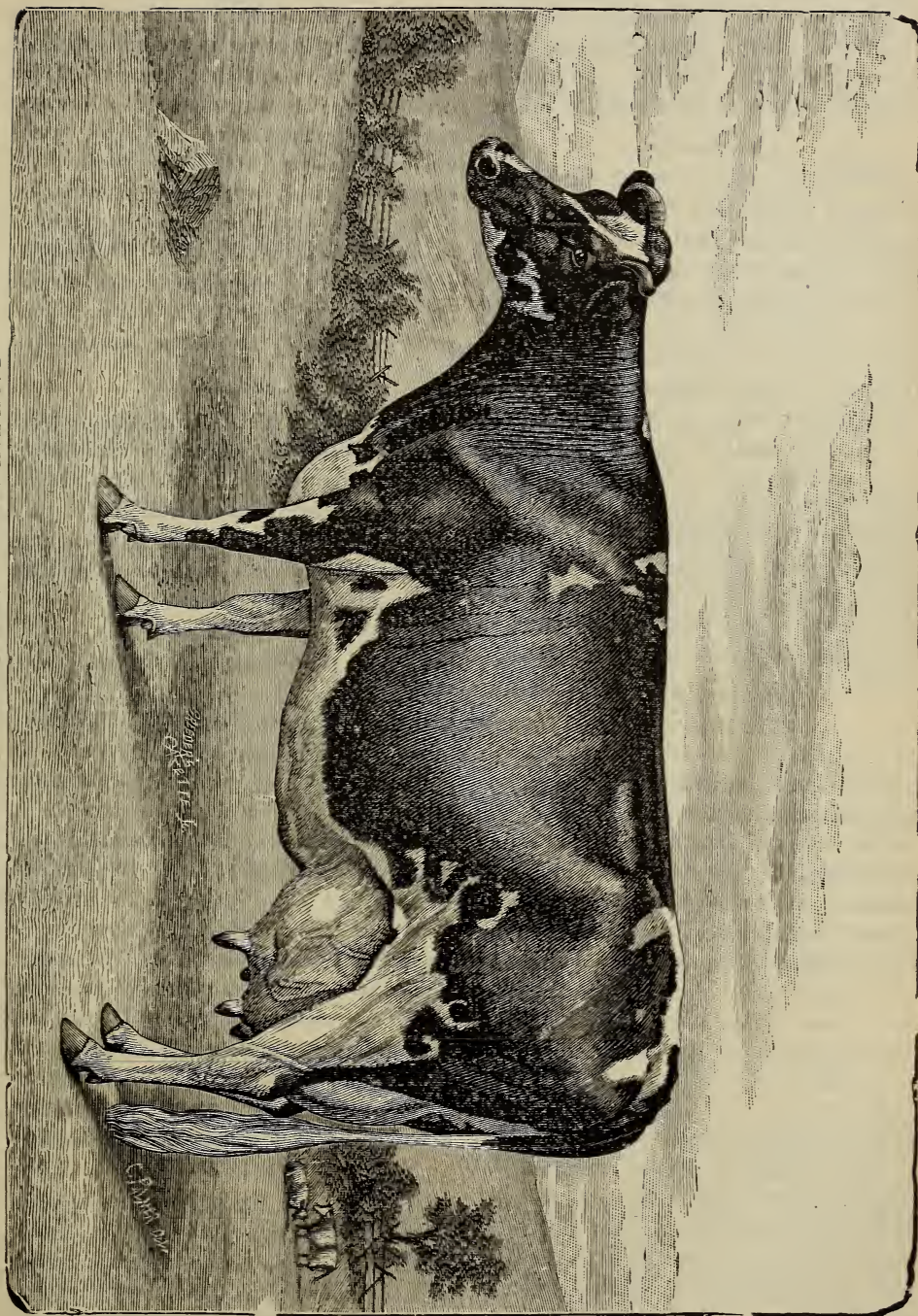
A SUGGESTIVE ITEM.

A suggestive item appeared in a recent New England *Homestead* in regard to home vs. co-operative creameries in relating to profits, and we believe that the result has a lesson for the small dairy farmers in Maryland. This report relates to the average sales of butter in the St. Albans, Vt. market, where about 35 tons per week is purchased for the great Boston market. During the past year the farmers have after all labor realized 15 cents per pound for their home-made butter, while the butter made at the co-operative creameries has *netted* the patrons 24 cents per pound, or a gain of *nine* cents clear for every pound so made, and that without labor. Now every pound of this 15-cent home-made butter represented a *scale* of cream and the pound of creamery butter took no more, if as much cream, for it was churned fresher, treated more uniformly and would result in more butter. The expense of making co-operative creamery butter is no argument so long as the *net* receipts of the sales are more than the possible income from the home-made butter dairies. Now Maryland and portions of Virginia lying along diverging lines of railways to Baltimore and Washington afford excellent facilities for dairying; and this co-operative feature

affords not only those who now have dairies, large and small, a chance to make excellent butter where it is now of questionable quality, and supply those named cities in part at least with fine butter, instead of the shipment of train loads per month from the dairy sections of the North. We hope to see a move made *this year* in the matter and the FARMER will be glad to help along this feature of better and more butter making in this section of the country.

Gives Variety.

Prof. L. B. Arnold thinks that the day has passed when exclusive dairying pays upon the farm, that the change in markets, the different relations that commerce is forcing upon us tends to break up exclusiveness especially in dairying. The Professor says:—"Dairy farming is relieved of much of its monotony by combining it with some other branches which are not incompatible with it, such as growing different varieties of grain or meat, or some other food products, or almost anything but horses and sheep, these kinds of stock not being suitable accompaniments of the dairy unless the cows are supported mostly by soiling. If we were called upon to suggest a line of management upon a



LADY EAY, OWNED BY SMITH, POWELL, & LAMB, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

dairy farm to make all members of the family happy, we would suggest that the proprietor of the farm combine grain growing with his dairying, and that he raise his own cows with some to spare."

PACKAGES.

"What the customer wants is a package of small weight, say from five to ten pounds, that shall keep its contents clean, that is of good shape for carrying home, and will permit the butter to be removed in an attractive form for the table, and that can be put into the pantry or refrigerator without wasting room. What the producer wants in addition, is that the package shall be inexpensive, easily made anywhere, of such shape that there shall be no waste room in packing a number of them together, and above all, not hampered with patents or royalties, which, however they may serve to protect the inventor, are dead certain to be a nuisance to everybody else."

BUTTER TESTS.

There is at present much doubt expressed in regard to the most noted of the butter tests, and that a plan to govern all trials should be adopted, is not asking too much. In making these tests, Maj. Alvord would insist that "the granular form of making is the best, the granules to be small, well hardened by chilling with cold brine and then thoroughly washed, dried well in a cloth without compression and then weighed in the granular form. For an individual test and for comparative trials it is the weight of good standard butter unsalted, or salted at a given rate, that should be fixed. His final conclusions are that full satisfaction cannot be expected until standard tests are conducted at places specially equipped for the purpose, and by thoroughly competent men."

A SCOTCH IDEA.

"Milk when drawn from the cow is impregnated with what is known as animal odor, and if this be not dispelled before commencing to make cheese, it will cause considerable annoyance, and very probably a cheese of indifferent flavor. It resembles mixed breath, and perspiration in the newly-drawn milk, and on exposure to the air is slowly evolved. If the milk is too quickly or too slowly cooled, it will not readily escape; if too warm, it develops as readily as before leaving the cow."

THE receipts of the Government from the tax on oleomargarine from November, 1886 to July 1st, 1887, were \$723,946.05. Of this amount Maryland only paid \$1,679.70. It is estimated that the tax from the same source will be more than doubled during the current year.

Clearing 18th Street, in Washington.

One of the most satisfactory exhibitions of the power of the Judson Powder to remove trees and stumps took place recently in Washington, D. C., when Mr. T. M. Broderick, the Southern manager, with many prominent citizens, of the District, witnessed the uprooting of about fifty large oak and hickory trees standing in the bed of 18th street, N. W. It seemed a pity to see such beautiful specimens of the forest monarchs, some of them two feet in diameter and over a hundred feet in height, toppled over by so small an agent as this giant powder. It is invaluable to free land of stumps or boulders.

THE best bed for pigs is one made of leaves. Fine litter of any kind is always preferred by them to that which is coarse, and the cheapest and most convenient is leaves, which require no preparation for that purpose.

THE
MARYLAND FARMER
AND
NEW FARM.

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland and
for ten years the only one.

27 (New No.) EAST PRATT ST.,
BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, September 1st, 1887.

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ALL letters, communications, payments for subscriptions or advertisements, past or present, should be addressed to the MARYLAND FARMER, Baltimore, Md., instead of to Ezra Whitman. It is necessary that all accounts should be collected promptly and subscribers in arrears will confer a favor by remitting.

THE MARYLAND FARMER has passed by purchase into the possession of Walworth & Co., the proprietors of the magazine called NEW FARM. The circulation of NEW FARM, which was quite large for a new journal, will be added to

the already large circulation of the MARYLAND FARMER, giving to our present advertisers the benefit of the increase. Our advertising rates will not at present be changed, but we hope that many additions will be made to our advertisers as the circulation of NEW FARM extends from California to the Province of New Brunswick. The MARYLAND FARMER being the oldest and most popular agricultural journal in Maryland will retain the honor of the name and NEW FARM will virtually disappear. We hope, however, to add the 'snap' and 'vim' of NEW FARM to the solidity and thoughtfulness of the MARYLAND FARMER.

THE EDITOR who, under the direction of Mr. Whitman, has for some years past had the principal charge of the MARYLAND FARMER, will still remain at his post and with the help of his old contributors, and many new ones, will strive to make the magazine of more value than ever before to its numerous readers.

HAVING ADDED FOUR PRESSES and a corresponding variety of type to the printing facilities of the MARYLAND FARMER office, we are enabled to do all Job Work offered at very low prices and with unusual dispatch. We invite those needing printing of any description to give us a call. Our stock of electrotype cuts is very large.

AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

One of the live issues of the present day is, whether the sums appropriated to Agricultural Schools and Experimental Stations, by the General Government, shall be expended for the benefit of the Farmers, or, shall be wasted in the rooms of professors of pet scientific theories, and the teaching of Greek and Latin classics to the city graduates of high schools.

In the present day those who come into possession of the appropriations of government are disposed to look upon them in the light of private funds to be used in any frivolous manner desired by the recipients.

This tendency should be the subject of the severest condemnation by all interested. The sums should be guarded against misappropriation; and where intended to benefit agriculture, there is no possible apology for turning them to teach Greek and Latin for the benefit of other professions and occupations, or, to demonstrate visionary theories of individuals in scientific studies.

A certain amount is given, only a small amount when the vast field of agricultural improvement is considered, and those who receive it must be held to a strict accountability for its proper use. The opportunities for the demonstration of principles in practical farm work, and for the education of the young in all branches of agricultural knowledge, of a practical character, are ample; and these should be made first of all an imperative duty.

We do not believe in accepting excuses for the non-performance of this duty. If the money is wasted, if it does not accomplish the work intended, as it should, give it into other hands who will not misappropriate it; who will see that it goes as far as possible in the right direction, and only in that direction.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

Railroad accidents have become so numerous and fatal during the past month that traveling by rail is becoming a great risk to those forced to journey. It is also observable that almost every serious accident is connected with excursion trains. This being the case, until those in charge can make such provisions for the safety of

their passengers as will be perfectly satisfactory, it will be wisdom for all who value their lives to keep from all railroad excursions.

It should also be recognized that some one is to blame for every accident which occurs. The blame should be taken for granted and thus the only trouble would be to place it where it belongs. The verdict "no one to blame" is a folly and a falsehood always.

A DECIDED WANT.

To make the Agricultural College of real value to the Farmers, admission should be for the Farmer's sons and daughters, who have a common school education and are of average intelligence and capability.

It is very well known that a person who goes to any College, with a mind disciplined by the advanced studies of our higher academies, has a great advantage over one who goes there without such a disciplined mind.

But the idea of an Agricultural College should be primarily to reach every Farmer's family, and become the means of educating the sons and daughters in those branches which belong to their actual life.

Accordingly it is a decided want of the people, that the Agricultural College should take those who have had the education of the ordinary country school, and by manual labor on the farm, and actual practical instruction in connexion with this labor, fit them to become men and women fully equipped to deal with farm work and all farm topics.

Carib.

We hear favorable reports from the Carib Guano from many sources: particularly where phosphate is needed in the soil. It is rich in this prime element of plant life.

FALL PLANTING.

It is not to be forgotten that this is the season when many of the permanent plants may be set out to the very best advantage.

1. Strawberries should be put out as soon as possible. Potted plants, if set out now, will give an excellent account of themselves next spring. They will bear almost equal to year old ones. The runners, if now set out will bear some, or will become heavy stools for fruitage a year from next spring. Set these, and all other plants, out with great care—the amount of care given to them is more than half the battle. Prepare the ground well and then stir the soil freshly just before planting them.

2. Currants and Gooseberries, whether cuttings or roots, may be safely placed in the ground this fall. As soon as the leaves have mostly fallen, take off the remainder and plant out. Be sure that the soil is brought solidly all around the plant, and, if it be a cutting, thrust it into the soft soil deeply and press the soil to it on all sides with the fingers. We have found that nine out of ten will live if treated in this way. The cuttings must be this year's wood, well matured.

3. It is much better to set out blackberries in the Fall than in the spring; because the root buds are still lying dormant in the Fall, while in the spring there is much danger of rubbing or breaking them off, and thus throwing back both the growth of the new plant and the subsequent fruitage.

4. Asparagus, should have two summers' growth before being planted in the Fall. As with blackberries, it is always best to plant these roots in the Fall; because the root buds start so very early in the spring that it is almost certain that the plants would be badly injured if set out in the spring. They require a very rich,

well drained soil, broken up deeply and fertilized heavily. The crown of the roots should be at least four inches from the surface. The roots should be well spread out, for the sprouts spring up from these roots.

5. Rhubarb plants are also best set out in the Fall, and partly for reasons given above—their disposition to start early in the spring. They require a rich garden soil, and are better for winter protection. After they are established they can be forced very rapidly in the spring, by placing a barrel over the plant, and surrounding the barrel with horse manure from the barn.

6. Trees of every description may be planted in the Fall. They should not be planted unless stripped of their leaves and properly cut back, and if in this condition they can be planted early, so that the ground will be settled around them, and the roots get hold of the earth, so that the winter winds will not affect them. It has long been a question, however, which should be recognized here, whether it pays to set trees in the Fall? We believe it does: For, properly done, no more risk is run than in spring planting; while work is not so pressing and they can receive more care, and full attention to details can be given.

While you have leisure this Fall, then, set out those vegetables, plants and trees which you may need, and giving them skilful work, you need not fear the result.

The old established Nurseries of Wm. Corse & Sons, with Office at 18 Second St., Baltimore, should be remembered by our readers who wish first-class stock, true to name. It is always best to purchase trees from such parties as are reliable, and also where any mistakes can be readily traced to their source.

THE HATCH BILL.

Experimental Stations in an Agricultural point of view, should be of a practical character. College professors are very apt to turn everything of an experimental character into scientific and technical departments.

The appropriation contemplated by the Hatch Bill should be guarded against merely speculative scientific experiments. Stations in that direction may be well enough for the delectation of advanced students and the professors themselves; but we do not understand this to be the experimental work of the Hatch Bill. We think that was intended to develop by actual trial, the best methods of farm work, in every department; from the planting of a seed to the perfect handling of the thoroughbred stock with a view to the most perfect results.

We have very little faith in an Agricultural Experiment Station, that can be carried on in a room twenty feet square, by a couple of professors, who know nothing beyond their retorts and chemicals, with their appropriate analyses and combinations.

We would prefer facts, without a single word which tells of the laboratory, gathered from actual trial upon the farm, with actual fertilizers; in the orchard with actual trees and fruit; in the barn with actual cattle and horses, sheep and swine. Those who may have the direction of the funds of the Hatch Bill should see to it that something tangible, something real is accomplished for the farmers by it.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

GREEN MANURING OF LAND.

As nearly all soils in their natural state while occupied with growing timber or prairie grasses are possessed of natural

fertility, it follows that the cause of land "running out" and becoming unproductive is from the lack of vegetable humus in the soil which is the natural source of fertility. Were it not for the mass of decaying leaves and dead wood of the forests returning to the soil the elements taken from it by the growing timber or grass, the soil would soon refuse to support either. It is a safe rule to imitate nature as far as possible in attempting to keep up the fertility of the soil, and one of the best and cheapest ways is to practice what is known as "green manuring."

If the land is cultivated and kept clean year after year and no vegetable matter returned, it will soon cease to produce profitable crops. It is the rule with all intelligent and progressive farmers and gardeners to "turf" their land at least once in three or five years with either grass, clover or peas. I have come to the conclusion that almost any kind of green crop left to lay or plowed under will improve the soil; even the much despised and persistent "crab grass" is better than nothing at all. The farmer whose land produces good crops of clover or grass need not look farther for a green fertilizer for his land, as there is nothing better; but all soils will not produce paying crops of clover and he is obliged from necessity to look about him for a green crop that will grow in his soil. For poor clay or sandy soils nothing equals the Southern "cow pea." If sown in time to mature its growth before frost it will cover the ground with such a mass of vine and foliage as will delight the eye to look at and tire the legs to wade through. I have plenty of sandy land that will not grow a clover stool to the square yard, which will produce a most luxuriant growth of vines of the "cow pea" which I find has several advantages over clover. In the first place it does not require as long to grow, my usual plan being to sow

about five pecks to the acre of "cow peas," at the last working of early crops, such as marrowfat peas, beans, potatoes, cabbage or early corn. Being slow in starting growth the "cow peas" do not interfere with their growth and harvesting, and besides feed upon the manure left from those crops to the crowding out of all weeds and grass, if sown thickly enough.

One of the greatest advantages of green manuring is the shading of the soil during the trying heat and drought of summer, apart from its value as a humus supply and as a mechanical medium for lightening up the soil. A crop of weeds plowed under before going to seed is a good manure, but woe to the farmer's land upon which weeds are allowed to ripen their seeds at their own sweet will. It is said that nature abhors a vacuum and in nothing else is this so apparent as in her efforts all through the growing season to cover every spot of earth with some kind of plant or vegetable growth. A bare spot in a field is a barren spot upon which nothing will grow until humus of some kind is applied. Manure is too costly for the average farmer and gardener to be relied upon as a medium for keeping up the fertility of the land, and really finds a substitute in green manuring when supplemented with an intelligent application of lime once in a while. The "cow pea" is to the South what clover and grass are to the North and West, and besides being a good fertilizer for the land gives good forage at all stages of growth to almost all kinds of animals. So fond are cows of it that I have known them to eat the dry stalks left in the field in midwinter. Owners of worn-out soil, try the "cow pea."

R. S. C.

NOTES FROM KENT COUNTY.

Editor of the Maryland Farmer:

The death of your senior, who was so long connected with the *FARMER* and so familiar with its readers, has cast a gloom over many and the sad reflection that he has passed away—never more to be seen in his accustomed chair—is hard to realize. His cheerful, happy face will no longer welcome his numerous callers. The last time the writer met him he was busy at his desk getting ready to make his annual visit to the home of his youth and early manhood, and he spoke of his anticipated pleasure of again being among the few left of those days; but alas! his fond hopes were not realized and death has deprived us of his annual notes of his visit and we can only offer up our sympathies for the great loss his companion for fifty years and a loving family have sustained. We are glad to know that your monthly contribution to agricultural literature will be continued and no doubt read with the usual interest.

The great failure of the fruit crop in every section of our country is in a measure compensated by an abundant corn crop, and at this time the beautiful corn fields promise an abundant yield. I have never had such a prospect for corn in land that has been mowed for the past eight years and on which during the last twenty years not a bag of ammoniated fertilizers has been spread. This goes far in supporting Sir J. B. Lawes experiment with barley when a bountiful supply of nitrogen was secured by heavy crops on land on which no artificial nitrogen had been applied for forty years, showing, as he states, that there must be an unknown source for it, as the land at the expiration of the forty years had twenty thousand pounds of nitrogen per acre within reach of the plant. Such language coming from such an emi-

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ment experimentalist as he has been surely is worthy the consideration of our farmers who have been paying twenty-five cents a pound for nitrogen. In our county twenty-five to forty bushels of wheat have been raised per acre without a trace of it in the mixture of phosphates, muriate of potash, kainit, &c. which is being so extensively used, not only on the Eastern Shore but throughout the State. I see that the Hon. I. U. Dennis has just disposed of one thousand bushels of wheat raised on twenty acres. Even at the low price of wheat this pays, and there is no reason others cannot do it provided the land is gotten into proper trim, always remembering that wheat like all other vegetable matter is merely air and water materialized through a porous, carbonaceous soil, from which the roots can demand a supply of the inorganic elements to be transformed into organic matter, not forgetting the importance of the sun's heat also in this transformation.

The procuring of fodder is an important question, and too often is a corn crop badly injured by pulling blades too soon. When the silk and tassel have done their full duty then it does no damage to top above the corn; the male portion can be dispensed with and the sugar of the sap will be directed to the grain. The common practice is to blade first. Experiments have fully proven that this is an error. The broad leaves below prepare the sugar for the grain and should remain until the corn is well filled and hard.

Rock Hall, Md.

A. P. S.

ICE PONDS.

If there is no ice-pond on the farm lose no time in constructing one before the fall and winter rains set in, lest the opportunity be lost for the season. Our country people usually have too little ice

in summer, a luxury so cheap, so refreshing and so necessary for the family and especially necessary in the management of milk and butter in the hot season. There is probably no farm that does not possess some stream that may be converted into a neat ice-pond at very little expense, if the work is undertaken in the proper season when the ground is dry and solid. Only clear away the brush, logs, leaves and other rubbish where the pond is to be and then construct a small dam of earth with a wasteway for the surplus water to pass. All the larger trees, if any, should be left standing to shelter the ice from the sun in winter. The ice-house should be near by that there may be no unnecessary delay in hauling, and this too should be so constructed as to secure such temperature and ventilation as will keep ice through August and September, the time of the most sickness when ice is most needed. A thick layer of sawdust on all sides is the chief point to observe. The walls of the house should be double and filled in with the same substance, and a hollow tube or box to carry off the leakage is a necessity. Ice properly packed melts but little. A double roof above makes the house cooler and more uniform in temperature. A clay hillside is a proper site.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

SOUR SOIL.

Lime is not the proper corrective for a sour soil as many seem to think. The acidity is caused by an access of water in the soil and not by an access of vegetable matter. Water held long upon the surface or just below it, stagnates, extracts acids from all vegetable matter in contact with it, chokes up the air passages and drowns the life out of the land. A drowned soil is always sour.

The proper thing to do with land of

this sort is to drain it. The superabundant moisture must be got rid of. The water passages must be opened below and the water made to flow away from the surface. Then lime will act. It is simply impossible to put lime enough on a waterlogged soil to sweeten it, because the presence of water checks the action of lime and decaying vegetable matter is constantly producing more acidity.

It is true that a dry season and good cultivation may cause liming to appear effective without drainage. But it is only temporary and deceptive. Opening the soil by drainage so as to admit the air does more to correct acidity than any amount of alkaline fertilizer that can be applied.

After drainage lime acts well and is necessary for such land. Lime is the second important thing, but not the first. The mistake has been in making it the sole remedy.

Sour soil is sometimes productive for crops of short period, or those planted late, for then the land has dried out. Such crops are field peas, beans, turnips, buckwheat and late potatoes. Deep drainage is the cure for a sour soil. B. W. J.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

PAYING CROPS.

It is with sorrow that I heard on my return home of the recent death of the senior Editor of your valuable paper. Mr. Whitman I have known from boyhood, and I have always found him an earnest Christian gentleman ever hardy to help with sound advice the young struggling along, and oftentimes with pecuniary assistance. His name has been a tower of strength in his favorite pursuit—*agriculture*—and now that he has gone, may we take up “his mantle” and cherish his memory, by doing our best to extend the influence of correct farming?

In my travels over the country and State, I see very little change from the ordinary rotation of corn, wheat, oats, grass and tobacco. Most of these crops we must raise; but why not, whilst doing our level best with these, raise a crop or so on a few acres of land near the house or barn that will occupy our many odd hours of a morning or evening; time that slips away and we have nothing to show for it.

Let any reader of this when he visits the city, walk along our docks and our depots and see the immense amount of produce shipped here from the North and West, and some from Canada, such as potatoes, onions, broom corn, fruit of all kinds, butter and cheese, &c. If they can raise them and ship them here over long distances, why cannot we? We can do it, if we apply ourselves; and because farm produce is low, let each one study some device by which he can reduce expense and produce some one or two paying crops which shall bring in ready money to meet the current expenses. The farmer's first and greatest aim should be to produce all the needful crops to feed his household and his farm animals; then certain large crops for market to bring in money to pay hands, taxes and current expenses; and then, as I have said before, if he devotes his time and energies on a few acres, made rich and mellow, and situated near his residence, so that every spare hour can be devoted to this particular plot—in growing whatever crop it may be that will command the best sale in his particular locality—I am sure he will, after a thorough trial, persist in it to the evident satisfaction of himself and family.

Besides growing large crops of the ordinary farm products, I grow annually from ten to fifteen acres of such crops as peas, potatoes, sweet corn, onions and strawberries; and last year and this I have cleared more ready money off of these fif-

teen acres than from the other entire farm crops, therefore I know about what I write. All these are paying crops, but they require skill and energy to make them pay.

From two acres of early peas I sold 164 bushels by June 20th, netting me 45 cts. per bushel, and if I had given extra attention as to their being put in on a field better protected from frost and cold winds I would have realized twice that amount, as my neighbor did adjoining me. This pea ground is now growing a crop of cucumber pickles, and after this crop is off it will be put down to wheat.

Five acres of this field is well set with a heavy potato crop, grown on a clover sod well manured last fall and plowed down, well and thoroughly worked this spring, run out into three-foot rows, 400 lbs. of fertilizer put in to the acre along with the potatoes, and after a thorough working with harrow, cultivator and plow they bid fair to yield an enormous crop.

Now these crops are mostly cash crops and one acre will oftentimes produce more ready money than any five acres of wheat or corn raised on the farm. I know of a successful farmer who plants after the last working of the potatoes every row with cabbage. The potatoes are dug by German labor, by hand, and he thus secures oftentimes two valuable crops each year. I know of another who plants several acres in sweet corn and after the corn is planted each row is set with strawberry plants. The corn pays all expenses and his strawberries are a clear gain. My idea is to grow paying crops on a limited area, the farmer to sell his own produce if possible and thus to handle his own money.

Plains Farm.

F. SANDERSON.

Newsy Notes.

AN agricultural society in Michigan issues tickets to the members of the press, which bear the following: "This ticket has probably been paid for a dozen times over by the paper to which it is issued. It will be honored in the hands of any man, woman, or child, white or black, red or yellow, who favors the association by presenting it. It is good for entrance and grand-stand, and the bearer, if driving, will be entitled to pass a team free. The association recognizes the fact that its splendid success is owing largely, if not wholly, to the notices so freely given it by the press, and while we cannot render an equivalent in cash, we return our grateful thanks."

MR. POWDERLY, according to the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, admits that the Knights of Labor have decreased in number within fourteen months from about one million to less than six hundred thousand. The loss has been steady and still continues at an increasing rate, while the number of accessions is each month smaller. The heaviest losses have been in the New York district assemblies. The famous Number 49 has lost more than half its members. Twenty-eight thousand men went out with the cigar-makers' union about a year ago, and various other unions have followed their example.

INDIANA STATE FAIR—Will be held at Indianapolis, Ind., September 19-24, under the direction of the State Board of Agriculture. The Editor sends many thanks for the invitation and ticket. Indiana gives one of the best exhibitions of stock at her State fair, and all the adjoining States are well represented.

THE 6th Annual Meeting of the Forestry Congress will be held September 14-16, at Springfield, Ill.

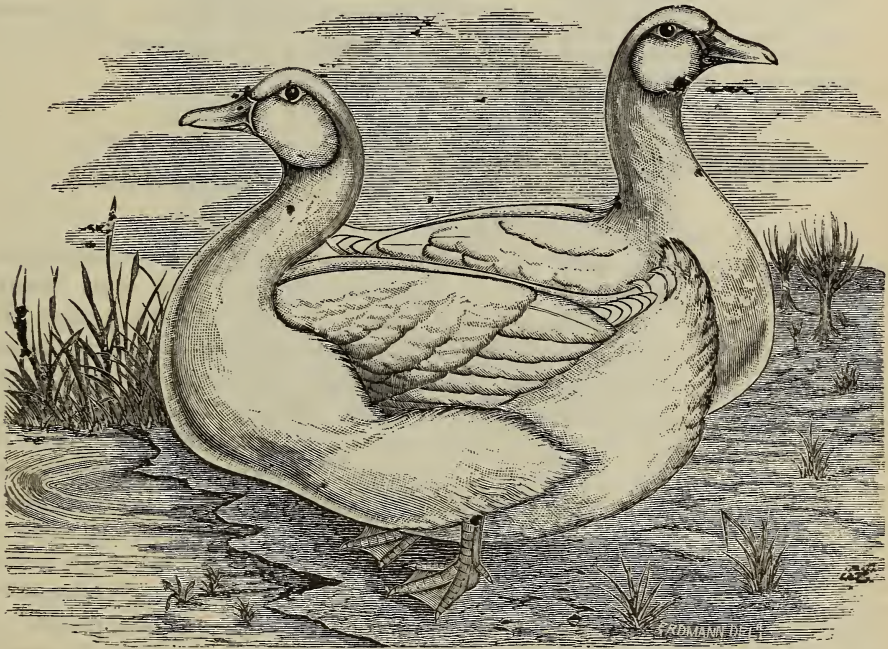
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POULTRY.

PEKIN DUCKS.

Pekin Ducks are probably the most valuable ducks known to-day. They are very large, mature early and have snow-white plumage. The eggs hatch from two to three days sooner than other

to eighteen pounds per pair are not uncommon weights during the first year, without much fattening. As egg producers their record is remarkable; and they are as near perpetual layers as any of the gallinaceous breeds of fowls that can be named.



varieties, and the ducklings seem larger and stronger at birth. They can be raised in any place where chickens can, and do not need any more water than land fowls until they are two or three months old. They are excellent foragers and excellent layers. With a good range they require very little feeding. The ducklings can be marketed in July and August, and at this season command high prices. Fourteen

BANTAMS.

To fanciers and amateurs, who love poultry for their own sakes and not for the eggs and food which they afford, bantams are a delight. As with all other dwarfs, they give a pleasure from their size, more than from their profit. Among the poultry these little folk are of such perfect form and so marked with the

beautiful plumage of their larger kindred, that they charm the eye at once. At the same time, when strutting upon the lawn, they assume all the importance and exhibit all the pugnacity of their more bulky brothers and sisters. Their appearance, their movements and their fearlessness attract and delight their owners.

HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

HOME.

"Home's not merely roof and room,
It needs something to endear it,
Home is where the heart can bloom,
Where there's some bright smile to cheer it;
What is home with none to meet,
None to welcome, none to greet us?
Home is sweet, and only sweet,
When there's one we love to meet us."

CONCERNING NIGHT AIR.

A writer in the *Mirror and Farmer* calls it a "superstition about night air being injurious to health."

Most of us from youth up have been so accustomed to the warning to keep out of the night air that we have transmitted it to our children, and physicians have inherited it as a part of their stereotyped advice.

That a good part of it is in fact a superstition, our own experience would justify us in believing. While in some regions of country where chills and fever reign, we have felt under the obligation, however, to keep out of the night air as much as possible.

Miasmatic regions are dangerous at all times; but in the cool, moist evenings of August and September their powers may perhaps be strengthened. A strong, healthy person may "find nothing but night air in the night," even as this writer asserts, but it is well not wholly to disregard any of these general warnings.

Most of the sayings which have come

down from father to son in this way have truth for their foundation, and although not always operating alike on different individuals and different temperaments, it is well to give them some slight heed in one's practice.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

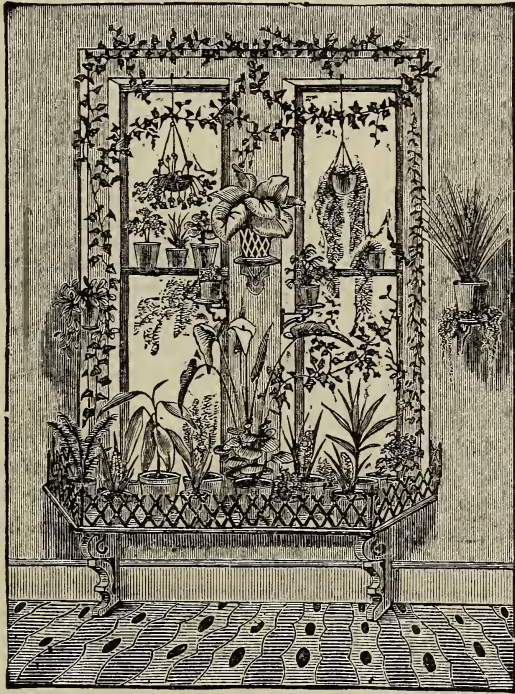
PROMPTNESS.

Being prompt in everything should be one of the first and most constantly practiced lessons of the young. Don't allow your children to get into the way of thinking that it is of little moment whether they are on time or not. The habit of being behind time in every thing is one of the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of any young man or woman. If you get into the habit of neglecting your duties, be they great or small, and then excuse yourself by saying "I forgot!" you will never make a reliable person. It is not only giving yourself trouble, but it is of great inconvenience and trouble to every one you come in contact with. Such persons are always in a hurry and are forever trying to get others to help them along. If they are going on a journey they are never ready, and at the last moment all hands have to come to the rescue. How often do we see people trying to get to the depot in time for the train; there they go whip in hand and the poor horse

is trying to make up for this habit of never being prompt. Be prompt in everything, my young friends. Now is the time to form good habits that will go with you through life and be of great comfort to you, and will save you many an hour of labor and vexation. "Be prompt in everything."

AZILE.

Started thus in pots they will grow in a few weeks, so that you can train them around your window until you can make it "a thing of beauty." Then with flowering plants in pots, or beautiful foliage plants, and suitably furnished hanging baskets, your own taste and our picture will give you a view of what you can realize.



WINDOW GARDENING.

We give herewith a cut representing how beautifully the living room of any house may be decorated in winter, if the proper arrangements are made beforehand. Begin to-day, after reading this article, and looking upon this window pictured on this page. Begin by transplanting and starting in small pots such plants as the Madeira vine, Cypress vine, Ivy, the flowering bean, or even the morning glory—or the smilax, clematis or passion vine.

ONE of the most enterprising houses in the Fertilizer trade is that of Slingluff & Co., who have their office at 157 West Fayette St., Baltimore. We have yet to hear the first word of dissatisfaction expressed by any who have purchased their goods, either as to quality, promptitude or business treatment. This is saying a great deal in their behalf, and is a commendation which Farmers appreciate.

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Books, Catalogues, &c.

FROM the Department of State, we have received a superb volume of "Consular Reports upon Cattle and Dairy Farming." The information here given to the public has been accumulating since 1883, and is a thorough and quite exhaustive report on this subject. It is illustrated by 369 plates, and the engravings comprise a library in themselves. It is a production such as no private firm could venture upon, as no patronage could be had adequate to cover the expense of so many superb portraits of cattle. It abounds with such information as should be known not only by the dealers with foreign countries in the cattle, beef and dairy traffics; but should be familiar to our countrymen everywhere.

AUXILIARY HERDBOOK, 1887, Vol. ii, Friesian Cattle, we have received from the Hon. Claas Vocke, Consul of the Netherlands in Baltimore.

FROM J. S. Ogilvie & Co., New York *Fireside Series*, No. 28, "Brother Against Brother," a story of the war, 25 cents.

TRANSACTIONS of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for the Year 1886, Part 2.

PRACTICAL TREATISE on "Olive Culture," by Adolph Flamant, Napa, California. Nine chapters, including one on Olive Oil and one on Pickled Olives. Price, \$1.00.

REPORTS from the Consuls of the U. S. Nos. 79 and 80, received from the Department of State.

THE illustrated pamphlet of the Great St. Louis Fair with \$70,000 cash premiums, to take place October 3-8. Entries free. Space free.

CATALOGUE of "Flowers and Bulbs," from Vilmorin, Andrieux & Co., Paris.

THE *Metropolitan*, Butterick Publishing Co., New York, has come to hand promptly, with its array of fashion, patterns and various information of styles and materials.

THE *Horticultural Art Journal*, Rochester, N. Y., brings its wealth of beauty again this month, and eclipses every periodical in its line, in quality of workmanship and price. Send 25 cents for a specimen copy.

PREMIUM LIST Berks County Agricultural and Horticultural Society, September 20-23, at Reading, Pa.

ARTISTIC HORSESHOEING, by Geo. E. Rich.

printed and illustrated in excellent form, with much information which every farmer should possess. M. T. Richardson, N. Y. Price, \$1.

State and General Exhibitions.

Below will be found a list of the State, county and other general fairs:

Alabama, Montgomery	Oct. 17, 22
American Institute, New York,	Sept. 28, Dec. 3.
Delaware, Dover,	Sept. 26, Oct. 1
Georgia, Macon,	Oct. 24, 29
Illinois Fat Stock, Chicago,	Nov. 8, 18
Maine, Lewiston,	Sept. 6, 9
Maryland, Easton, Talbot county,	Sept. 19, 23
" Elkton, Cecil county,	Oct. 4, 7
" Bel Air, Harford county,	Oct. 13, 16
" Frederick, Frederick county	Oct. 11, 14
" Hagerstown, Washington co.	Oct. 18, 21
New Jersey, Waverly,	Sept. 19, 23
New York, Rochester,	Sept. 8, 14
North Carolina, Raleigh,	Oct. 18, 21
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,	Sept. 5, 17
Rhode Island, Providence,	Sept. 19, 23
St. Louis, St. Louis,	Oct. 3, 8
South Carolina, Columbia,	Nov. 8, 11
Virginia, Richmond,	Oct. 26, 28
West Virginia, Wheeling,	Sept. 5, 9

THE shepherd should breed for size, weight of fleece, evenness of distribution over the body, for length of staple and fineness; for vigor, healthfulness and constitution; and as a result he will soon have a flock of large, thrifty sheep which yield him each season fleeces of the largest merit.

THE "EXCELSIOR."

Among many of the fertilizers, our attention has been several times called to the "Excelsior," the very popular brand of J. J. Turner & Co., of this city. Dr. B. H. Todd, Carroll county, Md., writes: "I have used great quantities of "Excelsior," from 150 to 400 pounds to the acre, the results being, as I naturally expected, better than where I applied other fertilizers. Your ammoniated phosphate is also good. Grass seed sown on land where "Excelsior" has been applied sets well."